middleman/agent level rather than at the bank level.

A Committee was constituted un der the Chairmanship of Shri M. N. Goiporia to suggest measures to im prove customer service. Reserve Bank of India has since issued instructions to the banks to implement the ac cepted recommendations of the Com mittee.

(c) All public sector banks have a vigillance machinery to investigate complaints of corruption against the bank staff. Specific cases are also referred to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) or Centra] Bur eau of Investigation (CBI) for de tailed investigation. In order to pre vent frauds and malpractices in pub lic sector banks various control me chanisms have been established which include statutory audit, internal audit snap inspection, etc. A high level Committee was also constituted by Reserve Bank of India in 1992 under the Chairmanship of Shri A. Ghosh (known as Ghosh Committee! to enquire into various aspects of frauds and malpractices in banks. Banks have been advised to implement the accepted recommendations of this Committee.

Income Tax arrears against film stars

1139. SHRI MOHAMMED' AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the Film Stars against whom Income Tax arrears amounting to more than Rupees ten lakhs is outstanding upto 31st March, 1994; and

(b) what steps have been taken by-Government to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The names of the film stars against whom income-tax demand exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs was outstanding as on 31 -3-199-1 are given in the annexed statement. (See be low)

(b) Recovery of tax arrears is a continuous process. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, appropriate steps are being taken from time to time by the concerned income-tax authorities for recovery/reduction of tax arrears.

Statement

Names of the film stars against whom Innome-tax demand of Rs. 10 lakhs & above was outstanding as on 31-3-1994.

S.No. S | Shri

1. Amitabh Bachachan
2. Mrs. R. Jayapradha
3. K. S. Dattatreya
4. Rajesh Khanna
5. Ms, A. Sreedevi
6. Late Shri Kishore Kumar
7. K. Chirianjeevi
8. Late .Shri Amjad Khan
9. Ms. G. Madhvi
10. Ms. Malashree
11. A. Nageshwar$_r$ Rao
12. A. Vijayakanth
13. Vijay Anand
14. Miss Smitha
15. S. Kamal Hassan
16. Late Shri Prem Nazir

Pending cases with settlement Commission

1140. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Chief Justice Of India published in the Indian Express of Nov.

ember 8,1994 under the heading. "Ahmadi calls for expenditious settlement of disputes";

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in the light of the various suggestions made particularly for reviewing the methodology of appointment of personnel on Central Administrative Tribunals in the background of huge arrears pending with these bodies;

(c) what is the number of cases pending settlement with each of the Tribunals functioning under the Ministry of Finance, how many of these cases are pending for more than three years and five years and what are the reasons for delays in their finalisation in how many cases stay has- .been granted by the Courts and .what steps have been taken to get .the.stay, vacated;

(d) the number of cases settled by these Tribunals during each of the last three years;

(e) what is the criteria followed in the appointment of the Chairman
and Members of these Tribunals;

(f) what is the number of vacan cies in each Tribunal and since when the posts are lying vacant and by when Govrrnment propose to fill up these vacancies; and

(g) what steps Government, have taken to expedite the settlement of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Income tax Settlement Commission and the Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal are the two Tribunals functioning under the administrative control of M/o. Finance. In the case of CEGAT, selection of Members is already being made hy a Selection Committee headed by a Judge of the Supremo Court of India. In the case of the Sctttement Commissoion, Steps are being taken to fill up vacancies on priority basis.

.(e) ln CEGAT, 52151 appeal were pending for disposal as on 1.1.95 of
which 32991 were more than 3 years old and 19742 were more than 5 years old. In the Settlement Commission, 1783 admitted cases were pending at the end of Jan., 1995 of which 659 were pending for more than 3 years and 847 cases were pending for-"more than 5 years. The majoriessens for delay in finalisisation oF these cases are 'the complex nature 'of the cases requiring, detailed consideration, time required in the case of 'CEGAT for clearance of cases of -public-sector units from the Committee of Secretaries and. adjournments necessitated by .non-appearance of parties after notice. Information on the number of cases In which stay has been granted by the courts and the steps taken to get the stays vacated has been called for and will be
laid on the Tabde of the House.
write now.

- (d) CEGAT: 1992-7106 appeals and 4882 stay applications; 1993—7405 appeals and 5675 stay applications; 1994 —8408 appeals and 4076 Stay applications.

Settlement Commission; 3991-92— 530; 1992-93—393; 1993-94—355 cases respectively.

(e) In accordance with Section 129 of the Customs Act, a Judiciad Mem ber in CEGAT is appointed from am ongst persons who have held a judi cial office for at least 10 years in the territory of India or has been a member of the Indian Legal Service and held Grade.I of (he service or a higher post for not less than 3 years or has been an advocate for not less than 10 years.. A Technical Membras is appointed from amongst officers of the Indian Customs and Central Excise Service Group 'A' who has held the post of

Collector of Customs/Central Excise for at kast 3 years. The President is appointed from amongst Judicial/ Technical Members. In accordance with Section 245B(3) of the Income tax Act, 1961, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman land Members, of the Settlement Comission are appointed from amongst persons of integrity and outstanding ability having special knowledge of and experience in problems relating to direct taxes and business accounts.

(f) In CEGAT there are 3 vacancies of Judicial Members since 1989, 1990 and 1992 respectively. After two unsuccessful attempts to fill up these posts another lattempt has 'been made by issue of advertisement on the 4th March, 1995. Filling up of these posts is likely to take some time; There is only one vacancy of Member in the Settlement Commission since February, 1995 which is likely to be filled up shortly.

(g) Apart from monitoring of pen dency in these tribunals through meetings at regular intervals, steps are being taken to fill up existing vacancies and to provide infrastruc ture facilities and stenographic sup port.

Closure PSUs by B1FR

1141. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the.BlFR in the past these months hag ordered closure of some Public Sector Undertakings of Central Government;

(b) whether Government could not support airy revival scheme before the BIFR and

(c) if so, the facts and details there-of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN" "THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Board for Industrial and Financial Recohstruc-tion (BIFR) has reported that it has recommended the following two Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to the Hight Court for winding up during the past three months.

1. Cawnpore Texiles Lim'ed.

2. Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited.

In the above cases, the BIFR came to the conclusion that these sick industrial companies were not likely to make their net worth exceed the accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting all their financial obligations and as a result the companies were not likely to become viable in future and therefore it was just and equitable that the companies should be wound up.

Protection Of Indian Industry

1142. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are serious about protecting Indian Industry against foreign MNC assaults as claimed vide "The Pioneer" dated the 13th March, 1995;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Hewett Packard is busy taking over Blue Star, UK based BAT indus. tries taking over Indian Tobacco Company and Coca Cola taking over Parle;

(c) the reasons for which the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's Pencil-lin-G facility is to be leased out to MAX GB (as reported in the Pioneer, dated the 23rd July, 1994); and

(d) whether the AT&T is planning to take over Cable TV etc?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE